

PATENT  
Attorney Docket No. 101.0056-03000  
Customer No. 22882

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )

Gary K. Michelson, M.D. )

Serial No.: 09/618,566 )

Filed: July 17, 2000 )

For: ANTERIOR CERVICAL PLATING )  
SYSTEM, INSTRUMENTATION, AND )  
METHOD OF INSTALLATION )

Group Art Unit: 3731

Examiner: D. Reip

FAXED COPY RECEIVED

JUN 06 2002

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

AMENDMENT

In reply to the Office Action dated December 6, 2001, the period for reply having been extended for three months by a request for extension and fee payment filed concurrently herewith, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 200-281, 288, and 289 without prejudice or disclaimer of their subject matter and amend the remaining claims (with the changes as shown in the attachment) to read as follows:

282. (Amended) An anterior cervical plate system for engaging at least three vertebral bodies of a human cervical spine along the anterior aspect of the spine, said device comprising: